

NEW RECORDS OF *POGONELLA BISPINUS* (STÅL) (HOMOPTERA:  
MEMBRACIDAE) FROM EASTERN AUSTRALIA AND  
BARROW ISLAND, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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**Abstract**

This paper gives new locality records for *Pogonella bispinus* (Stål) (Membracidae) in eastern Australia and on Barrow Island, north-western Western Australia, and records *Plumbago zeylanica* as a host plant.

**Introduction**

Stål (1869) described *Acanthucus bispinus* from "New Holland". Funkhouser (1950) gave the following distribution for this species: Australia; Homebush, Tweed River, Sydney, Maitland (New South Wales); Clermont (Queensland); Victoria; Tasmania; Swan River (Western Australia). Evans (1966) included *A. bispinus* in his genus *Pogonella*, mentioned the type locality as "New Holland" and gave as the "known distribution elsewhere" —Blackheath, Mullaley (New South Wales); Fern Tree Gully, Timbertop (Victoria); Lord Howe Island". At the same time he placed in synonymy with it *A. euryone* Kirkaldy and *A. eurynomus* Kirkaldy but did not mention any localities for those species, the type localities for which are Sydney and Bundaberg respectively. Kirkaldy (1907), when describing *A. euryone* and *A. eurynomus*, also recorded *A. ?bispinus* from Cairns and Brisbane.

The species is thus recorded from scattered localities from northern Queensland to southern Victoria, with one record from the southwest of Western Australia.

**New records**

Between 2nd and 16th May 1982 I collected 4 ♂ and 5 ♀ of *P. bispinus* from *Plumbago zeylanica* on Barrow Island, off the north-western coast of Western Australia (20°46'S, 115°24'E). This material represents a considerable extension of known range and *P. zeylanica* appears to be the first host plant to be recorded for this species. *P. bispinus* was the only membracid found on Barrow Island.

Unrecorded material in the Australian Museum collections from within the previously known range is as follows: New South Wales: 2 ♀, Nandewar Rge., near Narrabri, 6-7.xi.1932, K. C. McKeown. 1 ♀, Iluka, Clarence R., 18.i.1971, D. K. McAlpine and A. Hughes. 1 ♀, Huonbrook, near Mullimbimbi, 2.iii.1965, D. K. McAlpine. 1 ♀, at m.v. lamp, Whian Whian State Forest, near Lismore, 25.ii.1965, D. K. McAlpine and R. Lossin. 1 ♀, same locality and collectors, 26.ii.1965. 1 ♀, Royal National Park, 12.iii.1927, A. Musgrave. 1 ♀, same locality, 6.xii.1958, D. K. McAlpine. 2 ♀, Walcha, 9.xi.1932, K. C. McKeown. 1 ♀, Brooklana, E. Dorrigo, ii.1929, W. Heron. 2 ♀, 1 ♂, Bogan R., J. Armstrong. Queensland: 1 ♀, National Park, Macpherson Range, xii.1926, A. Musgrave. 2 ♀, Cunnamulla, x.1943, N. Geary. 1 ♀, One Tree Hill, Brisbane,

12.xii.1925, A. Musgrave. 1 ♀, Bunya Mt; 20.xii.1937, N. Geary. 1 ♀, National Park, iii.1921, G. H. Hardy.

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## ANTS ATTENDANT ON *OGYRIS AMARYLLIS AMATA* WATERHOUSE (LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE)

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Ferguson (1983) recorded both *Iridomyrmex* and *Camponotus* ants attending *Ogyris amaryllis amata* larvae and pupae at Coppins Crossing, A.C.T. In the same area in October 1983 a single pre-pupa was found in a borer hole occupied by *Crematogaster* ants. No other ant genera were observed on this particular tree. *Iridomyrmex*, *Camponotus* and *Crematogaster* ants, were found on other trees in the area together with some unidentified ants, however no *Ogyris* larvae or pupae were found.

In the nearby Cotter area many pupal cases were found in borer holes occupied by *Iridomyrmex* ants. *Crematogaster* ants were present on some trees but no evidence of *Ogyris* larvae or pupae was found with them.

*Ogyris amaryllis* is rarely attended by ants other than *Iridomyrmex*. Atsatt (1981) has observed that the presence of ants (*Iridomyrmex*) stimulates *O. amaryllis* to oviposit. It is not known if *Crematogaster* or *Camponotus* ants also stimulate oviposition or if these ants assume attendant roles in the absence of *Iridomyrmex* ants.

### References

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- Ferguson, D. J., 1983. *Ogyris amaryllis amata* Waterhouse (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) tended by *Camponotus* ants. *Aust. ent. Mag.* 10(4): 58.